



In the article last month about AE/MS students creating ornaments for the New Hampshire state Christmas tree in Washington DC, we hoped someone would be in DC over the holidays and send a photo of "our" tree. Jeff Goodrich made our wish come true - thanks, Jeff! Here's his photo of the New Hampshire tree, complete with ornaments from AE/MS.

Photo: Jeff Goodrich



Expert elves Shirley Currier, Anne Hewitt, and Wanda Smith make sure no one can peek until Christmas!
Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand

AE/MS Holds Annual Holiday Shoppe

By Christine Frost
AE/MS School Nurse

and Family organization contributed handmade, festive bags for the gifts and

AE/MS held its annual Holiday Shoppe on December 9. The Shoppe was filled with new and gently used gifts donated by community members, parents, and staff. This is a festive tradition at AE/MS, and it's a great way for students to purchase gifts for family members and get into the holiday spirit.



Myles Powers with his family gifts.

Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand

The proceeds go right back to the school to support student activities. A special thanks to the volunteers who worked in the Holiday Shoppe by helping children select and wrap their gifts. The women of the New Hampshire Circle of Home

volunteered their time as well. It truly is a community effort and gets bigger and better every year!

Kids like *Jimmy* need families like yours.

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AE/MS Holiday Concerts Set Festive Note For The Season

By Paul Hubert
AE/MS Band Director

The Andover community was treated to two musical evenings this past December; the elementary/fifth grade Holiday Concert on December 8 and the AE/MS Holiday Band and Chorus Concert on December 15.

The elementary evening started off with the kindergarten and their rousing versions of *Funga Alafia*, a Ghanaian greeting song, and the revised American party song, the *Winter Pokey*. The program continued with the first grade's *Have You Ever Seen a Reindeer?* and the medley of *Hanukkah/My Dreidel*; the second grade's *All The Penguins* and *We Are Santa's Elves*; the third grade's *Canoe Song/Land of the Silver Birch*, a Canadian medley, and *Hot Chocolate*, performed on recorders; and the fourth grade's *Chumbara* and *Silver Bells*, a holiday favorite.

Finally the fifth grade entertained with *Cumberland Gap* and the traditional *12 Days of Christmas*. The house

was packed, and everyone left with a little bit of holiday spirit.

The AE/MS Holiday Band and Chorus Concert on December 15 began in the usual way with the flourish of the Middle School Band and their spirited playing of *The Star Spangled Banner*.

The performance continued with a trumpet duet by Kobe Perreault and Scout Armstrong of *Hedwig's Theme* by John Williams, followed by the fifth grade band playing the following numbers: *El Toro*, *Soli Jam (Brass Soli)*, *Solo Rock (Woodwind Solo)*, *Hymn Song*, *Woodchopper's Ball*, and *Two for the Show*.

Next up was a flute solo by Betsy Abrahamson on *O Little Town of Bethlehem* and a clarinet duet featuring Annika Johnson and Jacqui Morris on *We Three Kings*.

The AE/MS Middle School Chorus sang *In The Bleak Mid-Winter*, *The Ocean is Wide*, *I Sat Down With the Duchess*, and *Siyahamba* from South
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